United Nations A/67/L.13

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
15 November 2012

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 121 (j)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Turkey: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization, in which it invited various specialized agencies as well as other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant financial institutions to join in the efforts towards realizing the goals and objectives of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Appreciating the efforts made by the Economic Cooperation Organization to strengthen its relations with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations in creating conditions conducive to socioeconomic progress in the region, including through the development and implementation of joint projects and programmes in areas of common interest,

Noting the efforts made by the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations in extending technical and financial assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the development and implementation of programmes and projects pertaining to socioeconomic progress in the region, and encouraging them to continue their support,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 65/129 of 13 December 2010,[1] and acknowledges the growing cooperation between the two organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the Baku Declaration, issued at the twelfth Economic Cooperation Organization summit meeting of Heads of State and/or Government of

[1] See A/67/280-S/2012/614, sect. II.

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the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held on 16 October 2012 in Baku;

3. *Notes* the initiative of the Economic Cooperation Organization on e-trade and the regional single window to introduce the cross-border exchange of e-certificates of origin and other relevant documents among the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in implementing its programme on paperless trade;

4. *Also notes* the progress on the proposed joint project of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States on the promotion of transit transport cooperation among landlocked and transit countries in the region, and invites that Office to consider supporting the proposed study project of the two bodies on the possibility of providing concessional services for landlocked countries in selected ports of transit countries of the region, within existing resources;

5. *Appreciates* the existing cooperation between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of trade capacity-building of member States, expresses satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the two phases of their joint project in this field, and invites the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other relevant United Nations agencies to give consideration to supporting the implementation of the third phase of the project;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre to develop strategies for States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in their trade liberalization processes that could lead to the regional and global integration of their economies;

7. *Notes* the project of the Economic Cooperation Organization to expand intraregional trade by organizing business forums, meetings of buyers and sellers, trade promotional activities, specialized trade fairs, exchanges of delegations of buyers and sellers, symposiums on leading export sectors and trade research, and invites relevant United Nations agencies and institutions to consider extending support to these initiatives;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the approval of the railway network development plan of the Economic Cooperation Organization at the eleventh meeting of Heads of railway authorities of the member States in Ankara in June 2012, and invites all the relevant international financial and specialized institutions to consider participating in the implementation of the plan, taking into account the key role played by the railway network of the Economic Cooperation Organization as a land bridge between Asia and Europe;

9. *Notes* the recommendations of the joint workshop of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe on a unified railway law, held in Ankara in June 2012, regarding the formulation of a unified

railway law on international freight and passenger traffic by rail with a view to the facilitation of transport by rail in the region, and invites the relevant United Nations agencies to consider implementing the recommendations;

10. *Encourages* all members of the Economic Cooperation Organization that have not done so to accede to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail[2] and the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention);[3]

11. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop two road transport corridors, between Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey and between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and invites the relevant international and regional organizations, notably the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Islamic Development Bank and the Economic Commission for Europe, to consider participating in the fields of study, demonstration caravans and other activities envisaged in the project of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop these corridors, within their respective mandates;

12. *Notes* the current efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to operationalize the Interim Motor Vehicle Third-Party Liability Insurance Scheme ("White Card Scheme"), and invites the Economic Commission for Europe and the Council of Bureaux to consider extending their support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in its implementation of the scheme, within their respective mandates;

13. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Europe to consider cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in promoting the accession of its member States to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road;

14. *Notes* the ongoing efforts to set up the Economic Cooperation Organization unified visa sticker for drivers and other persons involved in transit transport, and invites the United Nations and relevant international and regional institutions, within their respective mandates, to consider cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in developing this unified visa system with the aim of facilitating transit transport in the region;

15. *Also notes* the recent efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to initiate feasibility studies for enhancing the connectivity of the ports of its member States with those of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as a way to strengthen the access of the landlocked States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization to international markets;

16. *Takes note* of the plan of action for energy/petroleum cooperation for the period 2011-2015, particularly in the development and implementation of regional programmes on renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency, and invites the relevant United Nations bodies to consider collaborating with the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization in monitoring the implementation of the plan of action, within their existing mandates;

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[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1397, No. 23353.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1079, No. 16510.

17. *Notes* the adoption of the framework plan of action on environmental cooperation and global warming in the Economic Cooperation Organization region for the period 2011-2015, and invites the Economic Cooperation Organization to cooperate with specialized agencies, including the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, as appropriate;

18. *Invites* the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to consider cooperation with the Regional Coordination Centre of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the implementation of the regional programme for food security of the Economic Cooperation Organization in Ankara;

19. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization to prepare a technical assistance project proposal on the implementation of the regional programmes for food security of the Economic Cooperation Organization under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme administered by the World Bank, and invites the Steering Committee of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme to consider extending technical and financial support for the implementation of the regional programmes;

20. *Invites* the relevant United Nations agencies to consider extending support to the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization Seed Association and its projects on seed sector development in the region;

21. *Invites* cooperation between the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank and other institutions and organizations, to consider providing financial and technical support for the regional projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization related to drought management and meteorology and to support the programmes of its Regional Centre for Risk Management of Natural Disasters, in Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran, in the field of agriculture and of its Meteorological Calibration Centre, in Ankara;

22. *Takes note* of the resolution adopted by the Economic Cooperation Organization to establish the Veterinary Commission in Tehran and the Centre for the Efficient Utilization of Water for Agriculture in Islamabad, and invites the relevant United Nations agencies to consider extending support to the establishment process and the activities of the bodies;

23. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the progress made by the Economic Cooperation Organization towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals related to child mortality, maternal mortality and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, and encourages the relevant United Nations agencies, especially the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization, to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization, as appropriate;

24. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to enhance cooperation in the field of health in the region in collaboration with international organizations and specialized agencies, especially the World Health

Organization, the International Society of Blood Transfusion, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Population Fund, and encourages their continued support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of health;

25. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies and international organizations, especially the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Development Programme, to consider expanding cooperation in the area of natural disaster risk management with the Economic Cooperation Organization and to consider extending their technical and financial support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of natural disaster risk management in the region;

26. *Welcomes* the signing of the Technical Cooperation Project Agreement between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization on support for the implementation and development of the CountrySTAT framework in the Economic Cooperation Organization countries, for the development of agriculture statistics in the region, the first phase of which will be implemented in Afghanistan as a pilot country;

27. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat in conducting training courses and workshops for the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the region, and invites the Statistics Division to consider extending its technical and financial support for the design and implementation of a statistical capacity-building programme for the development of statistics in the region;

28. *Also appreciates* the efforts of the Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit of the Economic Cooperation Organization to compile and disseminate drug-related data and organize training programmes aimed at enhancing the technical and professional expertise of the officials working in the relevant anti-narcotics forces and agencies of its member States, within the framework of a European Union-funded project in the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and encourages the donor agencies, such as the European Commission and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to consider providing technical and financial assistance to the Unit in its efforts against drug-related and other related crimes;

29. *Further appreciates* the contributions made by the Economic Cooperation Organization towards reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, commends its active participation in and constructive contributions to various regional and international initiatives on Afghanistan, and especially appreciates its support for the high-level Core Group of Regional Forum Secretaries-General established at the meeting of the regional bodies on 19 July 2010, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan;

30. *Notes* the interest of the Cultural Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization in strengthening cooperation with the relevant United Nations institutions, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

Organization, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to consider extending support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in developing and implementing projects that can promote the rich cultural heritage of the region;

31. *Appreciates* the operationalization of the Science Foundation of the Economic Cooperation Organization in Islamabad and its Educational Institute in Ankara as specialized arms of the organization to foster regional cooperation among its member States in the fields of science and education, respectively, and encourages the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to work closely, within the scope of their mandate and within existing resources, with these two newly established bodies in preparing and implementing appropriate projects for the promotion of science and education in the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

32. *Also appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to establish or activate contact groups of ambassadors of its member States within the United Nations and with other regional and international organizations to, inter alia, mobilize technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the regional projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization and harmonize their positions on issues of common interest, and invites the relevant international and regional organizations to extend assistance to these contact groups within the scope of their mandate and within existing resources;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".